

# White House Task force on Recycling



**Office of the Federal Environmental  
Executive**

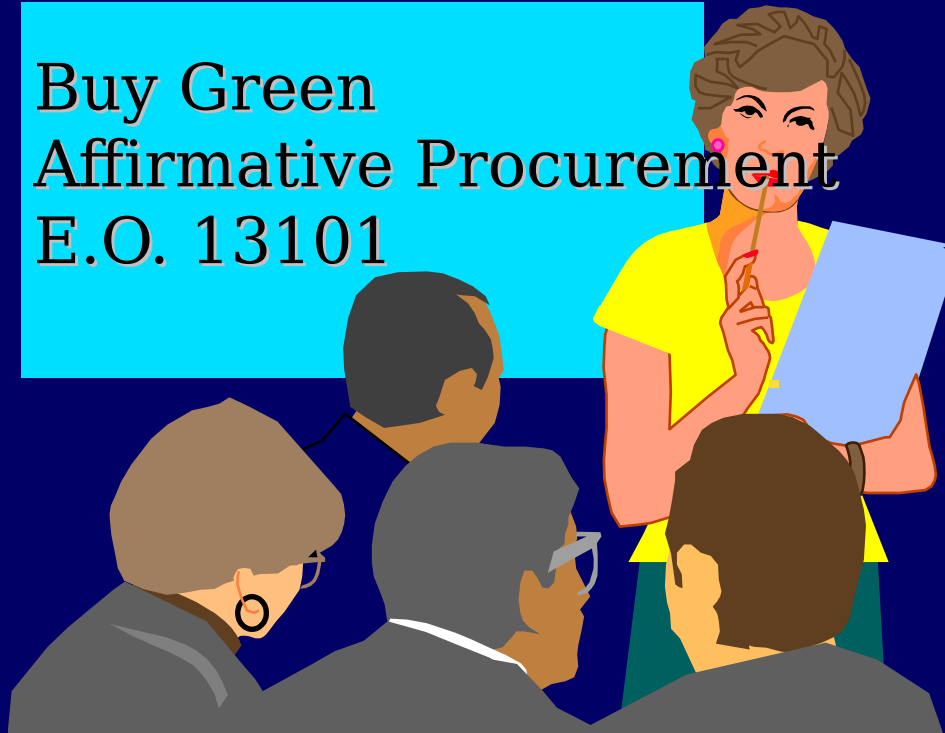
# AGENDA

- **Program Overview**
- **White House Task Force on Recycling**
- **Program Accomplishments**
- **Challenges**
- **Opportunities**



# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Buy Green  
Affirmative Procurement  
E.O. 13101



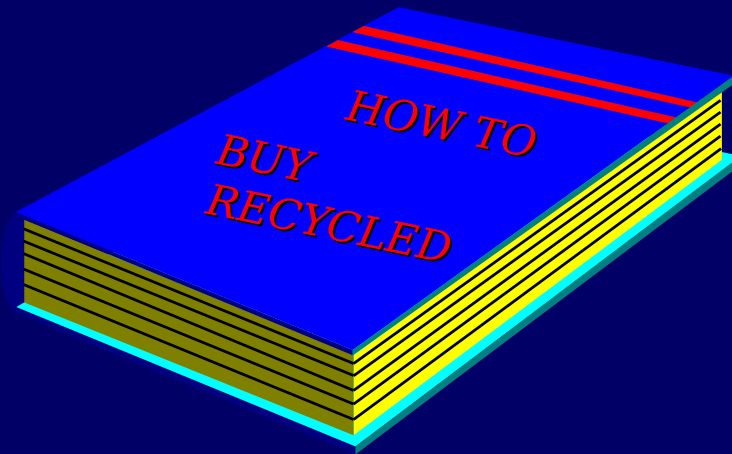
# What is Buying Green?

- The Federal Government recognizes four “buy green” categories:
  - Recycled-Content Products
  - Environmentally Preferable Products
  - Biobased Products
  - Energy-Efficient Products



# What is Affirmative Procurement?

- The Federal government strategy for maximizing the purchase of goods made with recycled materials



# Affirmative Procurement and Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

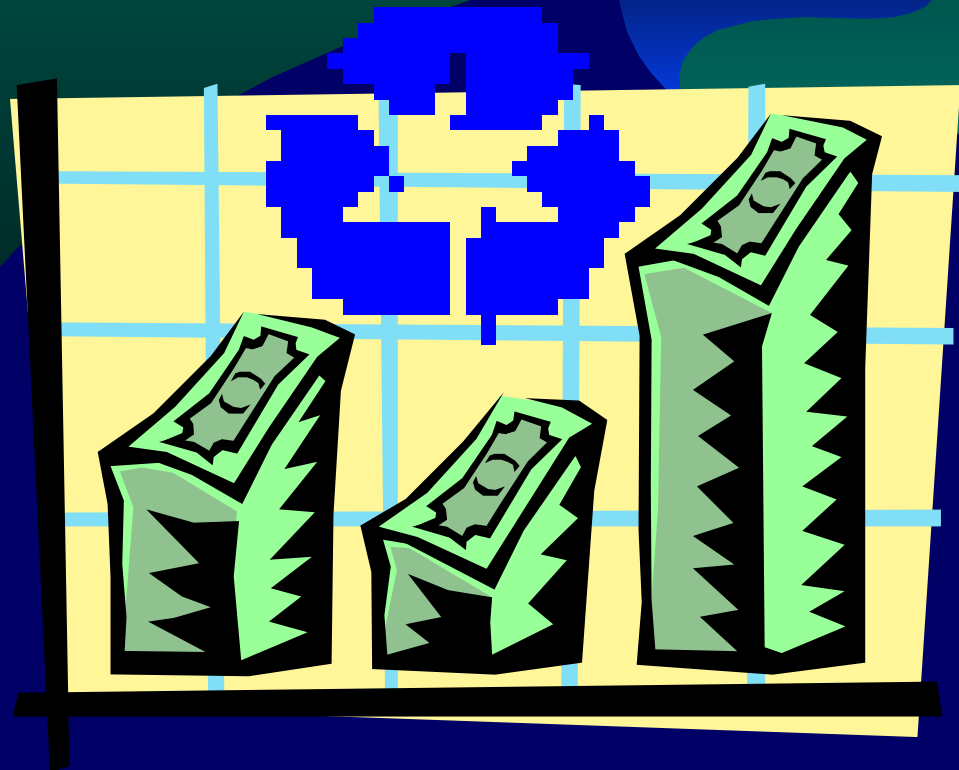
## EPP

- **May involve a multitude of attributes**
  - **Reduced toxicity, less packaging, reparability, energy savings, create less hazardous waste, recycled content**
- **Items not specifically identified**

## AP

- **Recycled-content materials**
- **Certain items designated by EPA in Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines (CPG)**
- **Guidance in Recovered Materials Advisory Notices (RMANS)**

# Why Affirmative Procurement?



The Federal government spends about \$200 Billion every year - and has put this buying power behind the country's

As stewards of federal dollars, we are obligated to purchase designated items containing recycled materials

# Affirmative Procurement Benefits

- Creates recycling markets
- Saves energy
- Conserves resources
- Saves money
- Saves landfill space
- Reduces pollution



**Purchasing recycled products is the key to completing the recycling loop!**



# Affirmative Procurement... *It's the Law*

RCRA Section 6002 required EPA to publish guidelines for affirmative procurement and required *procuring agencies* to develop and implement an Affirmative Procurement Program (APP)

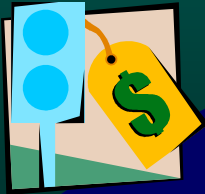


# What Is A Procuring Agency?



- **Procuring Agency - any Federal agency or contractor using appropriated Federal funds for a procurement**
- **Applies to cumulative procurements of individual recycled-content items exceeding \$10,000 in a year**
- **\$10,000 threshold applies to entire agency (i.e., Dept. of Energy, and its facility management contractors)**

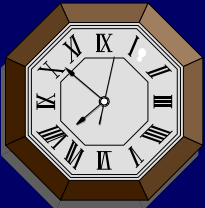
# Exemptions



**Price**



**Performance**



**Availability**

- According to RCRA, procuring agencies must follow the CPGs **unless the product:**
  - Is unavailable at a reasonable price
  - Will not meet reasonable performance standards
  - Is unavailable within a reasonable timeframe at a sufficient level of competition

# And The Products Are ...

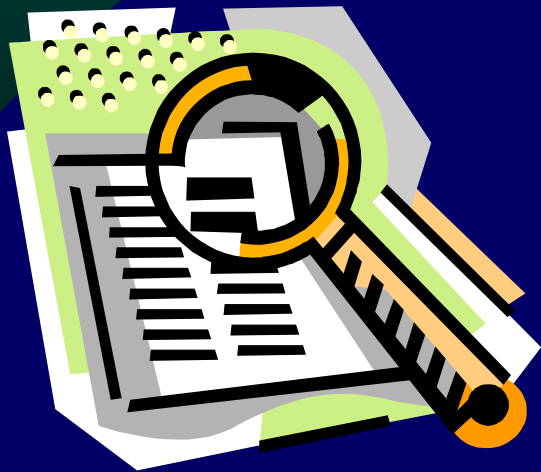
## *EPA-Designated Product 8 Categories*

- Construction
- Landscaping
- Non-Paper Office
- Paper and Paper Products
- Parks and Recreation
- Transportation
- Vehicular Products
- Miscellaneous

**54  
Designated  
Products!**

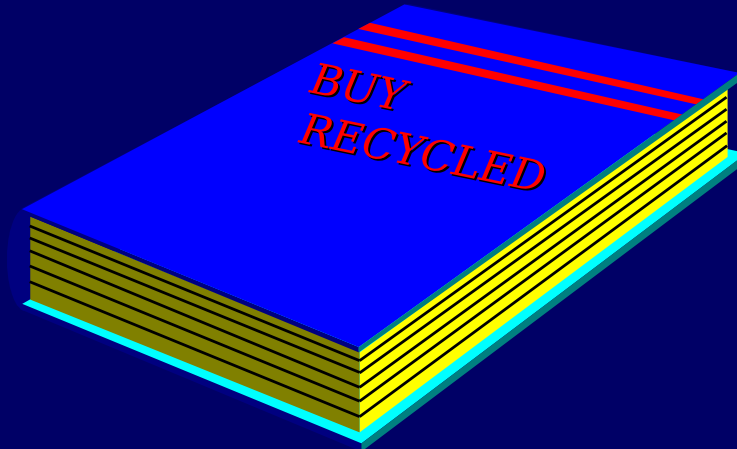


# How Will Purchases of EPA-Designated Items are Monitored?



- **EPA Inspections**
- **Report to Congress**
- **Internal Inspections**

# WHITE HOUSE TASK FORCE ON RECYCLING



# **EO 13101 - Greening the Government Through Waste Prevention, Recycling and Federal Acquisition (Sep 1998)**

**Expands and strengthens the Federal government's commitment to:**

- Recycling**
- Recycled content products**
- Environmentally preferable products and services**
- Biobased products**



# Key Players and Functions

- **E.O. 13101 Steering Committee**
  - Comprised by Chair of CEQ, the Federal Environmental Executive (FEE) and the Administrator of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP)
  - Chartered a Task Force on Greening the Government Through Waste Prevention and Recycling (White House Task Force on Recycling)
- **Federal Environmental Executive (FEE)**
  - Chairs the White House Task Force on Recycling
  - Ensures compliance with E.O. 13101 and other directives of the Steering Committee



# Key Players and Functions

- **Office of the Federal Environmental Executive (OFEE)**
  - Operates as the White House Task Force on Recycling
  - Made of Agency representatives
  - Coordinates/Assists the FEE on all Waste Prevention, Recycling and Affirmative Procurement activities
- **Agency Environmental Executive (AEE)**
  - Responsible for ensuring the implementation of E.O. 13101 within each Federal agency

# Stakeholders

- **Federal Agencies**
  - 27 Major Procurement Agencies and a dozen small agencies
- **Industry**
  - Manufacturers & vendors of recycled content/EP products
- **Congress**
  - Senate Government Affairs, Environment & Public Works Committee
- **NGOs**
  - National Recycling Coalition (NRC), National Resource Defense Council (NRDC), Environmental Defense (ED), etc.
- **State and Local Governments**

# Task Force Accomplishments



# Promoting Sustainable Procurement

- **Increased CPG products from 5 to 54 items**
- **Raised CPG annual purchases to \$350 million in 1997**
- **Increased recycled content copier paper compliance to 98%**
- **Promoted new procurement practices (substitution policies, incentive and closed loop contracts)**
- **Incorporated E.O. 13101 provisions in new FAR rule**
- **Intensified use of "green.com" sites and electronic catalogs**

# Raising "Green" Awareness

- **Raised awareness of greening practices and the need to procure green goods and services**
  - "Recycling...for the Future - Consider the benefits"
  - "Recycling...for the future - It's everybody's business"
  - Closing the Circle Newsletter
  - "Greening the Government: A Guide to Implementing EO 13101"
  - "Greening the Government: A Report to the President on Federal Leadership and Progress"
- **Conducted high-level government summits and workshops**
  - White House Workshop on Recycling
  - White House Paper and Re-refined Oil Summits
  - Government to Government: Smart Green Purchasing Meeting
- **Promoted Federal sector membership in "WasteWise"**

# Providing "Green" Training and Education

- **Conducted RCRA and EO 13101 training**
  - **DOD Senior Contracting course**
  - **Defense Acquisition University (DAU) Workshop**
  - **Federal Acquisition Institute (FAI) web-based course**
  - **Senior Agency Procurement Course (Con 301)**
- **Held Federal educational sessions at annual National Recycling Congress**
- **Maintained web site ([www.ofee.gov](http://www.ofee.gov))**

# Promoting "Green" Recognition and Outreach

- **White House Closing the Circle Awards Program**
- **America Recycles Day (ARD)**
- **National Recycling Challenge**



# Planning for a Greener Future

- **Developed Government-wide Strategic Plan for waste prevention, recycling, and Federal acquisition**
  - Defines the EO 13101 program goals
  - Provides road map to reach program goals
  - Sets Aggressive national recycling goal for the federal government (35 % waste diversion by 2005)
  - Requires Agencies to demonstrate annual increases in purchases of CPG products through 2005



# CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES



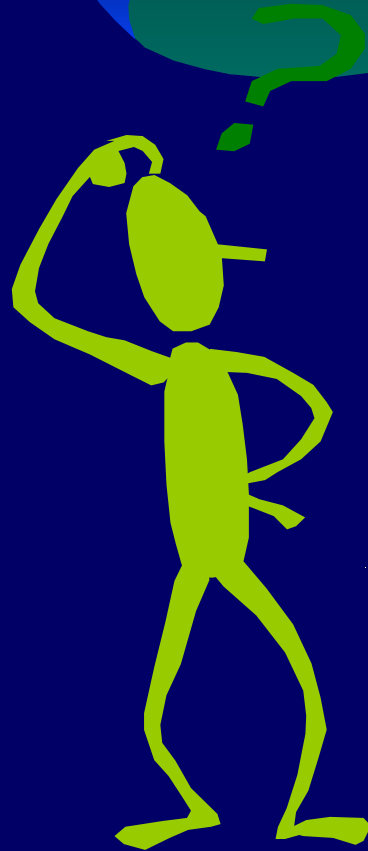
# Challenges

- 1. Agency Representation in the Task Force**
- 2. Funding support for program**
- 3. Stimulating market development**
- 4. 1998-99 RCRA Report to Congress**
- 5. Tracking and reporting of Federal agencies' purchases**
- 6. Development of Federal EPP program**
- 7. Electronic Sourcing of Environmental Products**
- 8. Generate Biobased Products List**
- 9. Increase Federal facilities compliance**

# Opportunities

- 1. Federal Electronics Stewardship**
- 2. Free Trade of the Americas participation**
- 3. Metrics on benefits of Recycling and buying recycled**
- 4. “Green” Environmental Advocacy Program**

# Questions



# For more information...

## *White House Task Force on Recycling*

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